

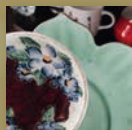
community connect

the newsletter of ballina shire council

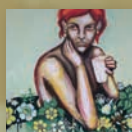
meet our local heroes



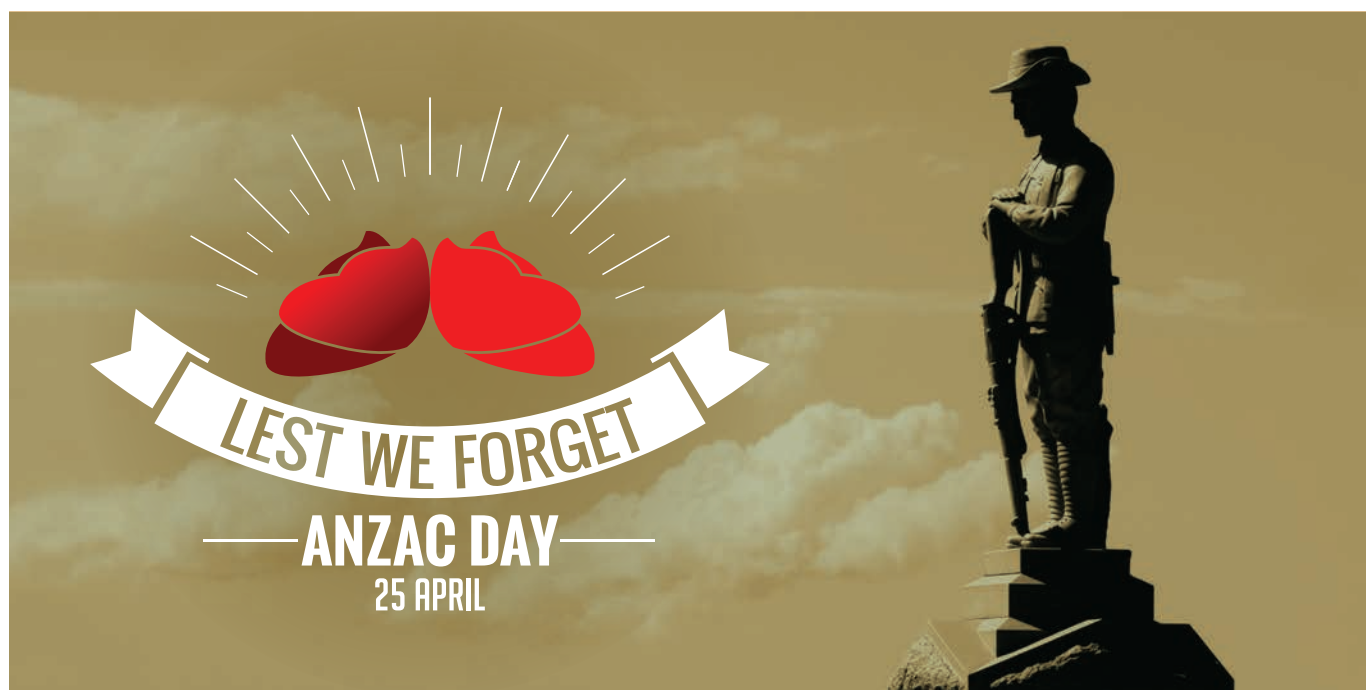
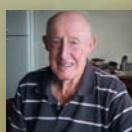
opportunity knocks @ opportunity shops



current exhibitions



meet a local



We honour the men and women who served our nation

ANZAC Day goes beyond the anniversary of the landing on Gallipoli in 1915. It is the day on which we remember Australians who served and died in all wars, conflicts, and peacekeeping operations. The spirit of ANZAC, with its human qualities of courage, mateship, and sacrifice, continues to have meaning and relevance for our sense of national identity.

See page 4 and 5 for details on commemoration services in Ballina and Alstonville.

Ballina RSL Memorial Park works

The Cenotaph in the Ballina RSL Memorial Park has been relocated to allow for a more functional area within the reserve for commemoration ceremonies, and in time for the ANZAC Day centenary in 2015. The works also involve some landscaping which open up views to the Richmond River.

The project is a partnership with the Ballina RSL Sub Branch, a number of suppliers and contractors from the region and Ballina Shire Council.





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from the mayor's desk

One of the best things about being the Mayor of our Shire is the variety of people I meet and the many great events I attend. I am continually amazed at the effort many unsung people do behind the scenes to help others in our beautiful part of paradise.

One event during February was an example of this. The tragic death of local surfer, Tadashi Nakahara, has brought a mesh of people together and had a sobering effect on our whole community.

The actions of the surfers who brought Tadashi back to shore is a shining example to everyone. These young men performed their remarkable feats with the shark still present, one even coming to shore and then swimming back out to help in the rescue. The whole group performed CPR and preventative measures to try and save Tadashi.

These efforts have been widely reported but there was also a wonderful group of people who have helped enormously in the aftermath who need to be acknowledged.

On behalf of our community I wish to thank the ambulance officer who attended the scene, the life guards and lifesavers who spent the rest of the week on duty, the SES, the Council Rangers, Council staff, the local helicopter pilot, the DPI Fishery expert and above all, our local police.

The young men who performed the rescue were highly traumatised and the actions of Detective Inspector, Cameron Lindsay and Detective Senior Constable, Andrew Fraser, protected the heroes from



Land available for affordable housing

Low to middle income earners are still able to purchase more affordable housing at Ballina Heights thanks to a \$5 million grant from the Federal Government's Building Better Regional Cities program.

The grant has allowed Ballina Shire Council to fund \$9 million in infrastructure work for the new housing estate, which allows for a \$25,000 rebate to be passed on to eligible home buyers. At the end of last year 27 families had taken up the offer and blocks of land are still available for approved applicants.

Land is also available at Wollongbar, under the Land Buyers Subsidy Scheme.

For more information go to ballina.nsw.gov.au or telephone 6686 1239.



NEW ROAD TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Ballina Shire Mayor David Wright and the Member for Page, Kevin Hogan, opened the new Ballina Heights Drive in late February. This \$9 million project included a 1.8km, two lane road, 20m bridge, stormwater drainage works, recycled water infrastructure, street lighting, cycleways, footpaths, acoustic barriers, landscaping and environmental rehabilitation works. It is the new gateway entry to the Ballina Heights Estate and the Cumbalum Urban Release Area Precinct A and was funded as part of the Building Better Regional Cities program.

Council contributed \$3 million towards the construction of the road, as well as \$3 million in rebates on 120 properties earmarked for affordable housing. The Federal Government's grant provided \$2.6 million and the developer funded \$400,000 for the road which will allow for better traffic flow to Cumbalum which has been identified as a major growth centre.



From left: Greg and Catherine Unwin (Ballina Heights Residents Action Group), Kevin Hogan Federal Member for Page, Mayor David Wright, Paul Lloyd (Catholic Church Lismore Diocese)

media and gave counselling through debriefings and support for many weeks after the event. The young men now hold an entirely different view of our local police.

I sincerely wish to thank the ongoing support of our lifesavers who have offered their services to help the men in returning to the ocean.

Tadashi's family and friends have been amazed at the support of hundreds of people at the beach memorial service, the flower and photo memorial at Shelly Beach and the way Tadashi's memory has been respected.

Council will liaise with the family to set up a permanent memorial in Tadashi's honour in the near future.

Briefly on other matters: I invite readers to visit the YouTube clip **Georgia Flies for Cancer** to view a message from local student, Georgia Quinn, who is proposing to swim 2.2km of butterfly to raise money for MLC, a rare form of cancer affecting our local community. There are links if you wish to make a donation.

The 100th anniversary of ANZAC Day on 25th April is a must for everyone to attend and pay their respect as our Country owes so much to these gallant men and women whose actions forged a world-wide identity for our nation.

During 2015 many events will be held to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the foundation of Alstonville. For more details contact Ina LeBas at Crawford House Museum on telephone 6628 1829.

Finally, I wish to thank the Ballina High School SRC for allowing me to participate in their goal sharing for 2015. This wonderful group of students show that our future is in good hands.

David Wright
Cr David Wright



Let us not forget

— ANZAC DAY — COMMEMORATION SERVICES

Saturday 25 April 2015

BALLINA RSL SUB-BRANCH

5:30AM DAWN SERVICE

RSL Memorial Park Cenotaph in Grant Street

6:30AM BREAKFAST AT BALLINA RSL CLUB

Breakfast available to general public in the Boardwalk Restaurant

Breakfast for Ballina RSL Sub-Branch members and partners, ex-service and serving personnel in the Spinnakers Restaurant

9.00AM BUSES DEPART

from Ballina RSL Club for Pilgrimage to the Cemetery

9:15AM COMMEMORATION SERVICE

Grandview Street, East Ballina Cemetery

10.15AM MARCH ASSEMBLY

River Street between Woolworths and Court House

10:30AM ANZAC DAY MARCH

to RSL Memorial Park, Grant Street

10:55AM ANZAC DAY SERVICE OF COMMEMORATION

RSL Memorial Park

12:00PM LUNCH AT BALLINA RSL CLUB

Lunch available to general public in the Boardwalk Restaurant

Lunch for Ballina RSL Sub-Branch members, ex-service and serving personnel in Spinnakers Restaurant

2.00PM TWO UP

Ballina RSL Club

2:00PM ANZAC SERVICE

St Andrew's Nursing Home, Bentinck Street

ALSTONVILLE RSL SUB-BRANCH

alstonvillers1@gmail.com

5.20AM ASSEMBLE FOR DAWN SERVICE

Elizabeth Ann Brown Park

5.30AM DAWN SERVICE

9.20AM MARCH ASSEMBLY AND WREATH LAYING

Paddy Bugden VC Memorial

9.30 ANZAC DAY MARCH

to Elizabeth Ann Brown Park

10AM ANZAC DAY SERVICE OF COMMEMORATION

Elizabeth Ann Brown Park

Monthly Commemoration Services to honour and remember

The Alstonville RSL Sub-Branch will hold special commemorations to honour an individual or an event from World War I as part of their monthly meetings.

All members of the public are warmly welcomed to attend the monthly commemorations which commence at 9.00am on the 2nd Saturday of each month at the Alstonville RSL Sub Branch Hall, 13 Bugden Avenue, Alstonville.

For further enquiries please contact Graham Gooding, Alstonville RSL Sub Branch President, on telephone 6628 1747.



RSL MEMORABILIA

Local and national historical records and photos...

The Alstonville and Ballina RSL Sub-Branches are the custodians of many historical artefacts, medals, records, replicas and photos relating to military campaigns and peacekeeping operations. The local collections allow the community to better understand the hardships experienced during wartime activities.

School groups or individuals wanting to discover more about our local and national war history can do so by contacting:

Graham Gooding, President, Alstonville RSL Sub Branch, Ph 6628 1747.

Noel McCallum, Curator, Ballina RSL Museum, Ph 6686 0133.

Note: the Ballina RSL Museum is always open during the trading hours of the Ballina RSL. Larger groups and guided tours can be arranged by contacting Noel McCallum on telephone 6686 0133.

Ballina Maritime Museum

Another local resource or wartime memorabilia is the Ballina Naval and Maritime Museum. The Museum collects, preserves and presents the rich maritime heritage of Ballina and our naval wartime history. Located on Regatta Avenue, behind the Ballina Visitor Information Centre and Ballina Library, the Museum is open 7 days from 9am to 4pm.

Ph: 6681 1022 or visit ballinamaritimemuseum.org.au



A COMMUNITY AT WAR...

Wartime stories from Ballina Shire

A Community at War



Wartime stories from Ballina Shire

A Community at War chronicles a sample of wartime stories from the Ballina Shire. Its publication marks the beginning of the centenary of WWI but it also includes WWII experiences and stories of local men who went to war. It also considers the impact of war on the home front, felt by local families and communities.

A Community at War was produced by Ballina Shire Council in 2014 and prepared with the valued assistance of various families, and community organisations.

Copies can be purchased for \$20 from Ballina Shire Council, the Ballina Visitor Information Centre or the Northern Rivers Community Gallery.

100 YEARS OF ANZAC

THE SPIRIT LIVES 2014 - 2018

For further information and interactive educational resources on the ANZAC Centenary visit anzacportal.dva.gov.au

ANZAC Day Badges

Support RSL Welfare Programs...

Alstonville Sub-Branch will be selling badges from 21 to 24 April in the Alstonville Plaza.

Ballina Sub-Branch will be selling badges from 17 to 24 April in Ballina Fair.

Badges will also be available on ANZAC Day.

Fifty-percent of proceeds go to local welfare programs with the remainder going to the RSL's national programs.

WE WANT YOU

We want to photograph WWII servicemen and women for the national archives.

Accredited professional photographers nationwide are donating their time and talent to create portraits which commemorate the 75th anniversary of WWII, honouring our heroes and 100 years of the ANZAC tradition. Veterans will receive a printed portrait photograph, free of charge, for their participation.

Register online for more info and to schedule a photo shoot from April 2015.

aipp
ACCREDITED
PROFESSIONAL
PHOTOGRAPHER

Reflections
Honouring our WWII Veterans

Register online at
aippveterans.com

—★—

*They shall grow not old,
as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them,
nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun
and in the morning,
We will remember them.
Lest we forget*



WHY COUNCIL APPLIES FOR GRANT FUNDING

Often you will hear that projects undertaken by Council are funded via State and Federal Government grants. In fact, money from grants has supported and funded a large number of important community projects including the coastal pathways and improvements to regional boating facilities.

Some grants are a straight contribution to Council, others are provided as a low-rate loan and some are offered on a dollar-for-dollar basis where Council must match the money provided. There is a wide range of grant funding opportunities and competition is fierce so when we receive grant funding it is worth celebrating.

Look at what some of our recent successful grants have provided during the past 12-months:

PROJECT	FUNDING BODY	AMOUNT (\$)
Ballina Shire 'Bundjalung Cultural Ways' Interpretation Project	NSW Heritage Grants – Aboriginal Heritage Projects	69,000
Northlakes Stormwater Management	Estuary Management Program	45,297
Chickiba Wetlands Rehabilitation	Estuary Management Program	59,000
People and Place, Age & Experience: A Creative Exploration	Creative Ageing Local Government Grant Scheme	4,000
Coastal Pathway	State Government – Public Reserves Management Fund	200,000
Improvements to Lake Ainsworth	State Government – Public Reserves Management Fund	150,000
Marine Rescue Tower	State Government – Public Reserves Management Fund	350,000 (200,000 loan)
Revegetation Koala Habitat <i>(See page 7 for further details)</i>	\$20 Million Trees Project	85,000
Lennox Head Cultural & Community Centre: Community Events Improvement Project <i>(See page 7 for further details)</i>	ClubGrants	200,000
Surveillance Cameras	Environmental Protection Authority – Combating Illegal Dumping Clean Up & Prevention Grant	95,042
Community Recycling Centre <i>(See page 25 for further details)</i>	Environment Protection Authority's (EPA) Waste Less Recycle More program	109,000
Shared pathway Main Street Alstonville (Perry Street and Lismore Road)	Roads and Maritime Services 2015/16 Active Transport Program	33,000
Sports field lighting at Ballina Netball Courts <i>(See page 12 for further details)</i>	NSW Sport and Recreation	25,000
Regional Boating Plan Projects	Transport for NSW	1,470,000

Applications currently being assessed

Ballina Shire Council has also made the following grant applications, which are currently being assessed by the applicable funding bodies.

PROJECT	FUNDING BODY	AMOUNT SEEKING (\$)
Marine Rescue Tower	National Stronger Regions Fund	1,000,000
Restoration and Rehabilitation Grant – Endangered Ecological Communities on the Lower Richmond	Environmental Trust NSW	95,000
Lake Ainsworth – Review of Management Plan (intensive water monitoring)	Office of Environment and Heritage – Estuary Management Program	70,000
Implementation of Coastal Zone Management Plan – Shaws Bay Project 1: Erosion control works in Pop Denison Park. Project 2: Approvals process for dredging Shaws Bay	State Government – Public Reserves Management Fund	Project 1: 100,000 Project 2: 42,580
Ballina Byron Gateway Airport - Terminal Precinct Expansion Project	NSW Regional Tourism Infrastructure Fund	7,950,000



Regional Boating Plan projects

Boating is one of the most popular recreational pastimes in the Ballina Shire and Council is pleased to announce Transport for NSW is funding nine projects as part of the Regional Boating Plan. These projects are expected to be completed over the next two years:

PROJECT DESCRIPTION	TOTAL COST (\$)	LIKELY COUNCIL CONTRIBUTION (\$)
Ballina Trawler Harbour – Concept Plan	80,000	40,000
Keith Hall Lane, South Ballina - Boat Ramp and Pontoon	300,000	75,000
East Wardell, Pontoon	100,000	50,000
Captain Cook Park, Ballina – Ramp and pontoons to improve boating access	300,000	50,000
Fishery Creek, Ballina - Pontoon Extension	100,000	50,000
Faulks Reserve, Ballina – Pontoon and Ancillary Facilities	200,000	75,000
Emigrant Creek, Ballina - Access Improvements Study	40,000	0
End of North Creek Road, Lennox Head - Boat Ramp	150,000	75,000
Brunswick Street, Ballina - Boat ramp and possible finger pontoon	200,000	75,000



ONE SMALL STEP FOR BALLINA.... A BIG DIFFERENCE TO KOALAS....

Eight thousand trees are to be planted on cleared koala habitat in the Bagotville area as part of the Federal Government's 20 Million Trees project. Council is contributing \$15,000 to the \$100,000 project which will also see some 12,000 understorey species planted to restore vegetation across several sites adjacent to existing primary and secondary koala habitat.

The trees and understorey plants will be sourced locally and will complement future plantings anticipated by the Roads and Maritime Services as part of the Pacific Highway upgrade. Farmers will be encouraged to trial koala-friendly windbreak trees.

The project is designed to provide triple bottom line outcomes for the community. Not only will koala habitat be revegetated but there will be reduced sediment runoff from bare areas. Local organisations will be used to supply the plants and labour to undertake the work.

More music, arts and theatre coming to Lennox Head

The Lennox Head Cultural and Community Centre will soon be able to provide a wider variety of entertainment and events courtesy of a \$200,000 NSW Government Clubs Grant.

The funding will transform the auditorium into a state-of-the-art entertainment venue for theatre, live performances and film screenings.

The redeveloped auditorium will include the installation of audio-visual and lighting equipment, tiered removable seating for 550 people, wheelchair-friendly aisles, retractable projection screens and new flooring.

See pages 28 and 29 for What's On at your local Community Centre.



Photo: Helen Fry from Lennox Wave ©

LOOKING FOR GRANT FUNDING?

If your organisation or community group is looking for grant funding opportunities the following websites provide information on available government grants, crowdfunding and donations.

- grantsandfunding.com.au
- fundingcentre.com.au
- ourcommunity.com.au

road projects

Projects underway or recently completed

ROUNDAABOUT – TAMAR / CHERRY STREET – Recently completed (pictured right)

PIMLICO ROAD – Pavement reconstruction – Due for completion March 2015

URALBA ROAD – Pavement reconstruction – Completed March 2015

THE RIDGEWAY, BALLINA HEIGHTS – Pavement Reconstruction – Completed March 2015

Projects due to commence 2015

RIVER STREET – Pavement reconstruction between Grant and Kerr Streets - Due for completion by Easter 2015.

ROUNDAABOUT – MOON STREET / CHERRY STREET. Electrical relocations recently completed. Preliminary drainage, road works and paving works commenced mid-March.

WINTON LANE, BALLINA – Shared zone improvements to complement Wigmore Arcade upgrade - Works have recently commenced.

COASTAL SHARED PATH (WEST) – North Creek Road from Tara Downs to Amber Drive. Due to commence April/May.



COASTAL SHARED PATH (EAST) – Angels Beach to Sharpes Beach. Pre-construction works are ongoing. Construction to commence following completion of North Creek Road section of path.



A shared path from the Angels Beach underpass to Flat Rock carpark and then through to the Sharpes Beach underpass.



A coastal walk from the Sharpes Beach underpass, built to National Parks and Wildlife standards, largely along the existing walking track through Boulder Beach and up to Pat Morton carpark.



A shared path from North Angels Beach, along the western side of The Coast Road to Sharpes Beach underpass.



A shared path from the Skennars Head / Headlands Drive intersection turning left along Skennars Head Road and then turning right up North Creek Road to Amber Drive.



A shared path from the Skennars Head / Headlands Drive intersection turning right along Skennars Head Road then turning left up the western side of The Coast Road, before crossing The Coast Road to connect to the Pat Morton Carpark.



Copyright: Land & Property Information 2014.



australia day

celebrating what we
take for granted

Australia Day 2015 was a day of celebration with special guests Leigh Sales, anchor for the ABC's flagship current affairs program 7:30, The Voice superstars, siblings Gabriel and Cecilia Brandolini, Uncle Lewis Cook, Daniel Kapeen, the Ballina Pipe Band, the TS Lismore Navy Cadets and the Headliners chorus.

Congratulations to our 2015 local heroes, particularly Mary O'Brien who was named the Ballina Shire Citizen of the Year for her work in the community. Mayor David Wright welcomed seven new Australian citizens. Many thanks to the Lennox Head Lions Club and the Scope Club of Ballina who hosted the bbq and gave away freshly made damper and ANZAC biscuits on the Lennox Head foreshore.

INTRODUCING OUR 2015 LOCAL HEROES

SENIOR CITIZENS OF THE YEAR



Mike Rushby makes an outstanding contribution in creating a sense of community in Wardell. Mike is the journalist, editor and photographer of the Blackwall Bugle; preserving stories and capturing events of Wardell and surrounds.

Wally Mulgrave is a committed member of the Ballina Diabetes Support and Ballina Shire Access Reference Groups and East Ballina Lions Club. Wally skydived so the Lions Club could purchase a much needed bbq. In expressing his love for life he says, 'I have lost my legs but not my spirit'.

Ian Duncan is a motivating force in saving and renovating the Newrybar Hall, which has once again become a vital community facility for the residents of Newrybar and the entire Ballina Shire.

Margaret Ryan Many Alstonville residents and organisations are the beneficiary of Margaret's hard work, enthusiasm, commitment and community spirit.

YOUNG CITIZEN OF THE YEAR



Rachel Hughes is a positive role model through her volunteering and charity work. Rachel creates awareness of community needs and encourages young people to help those less fortunate.

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Robyn Mostyn together with a handful of volunteers, established the Northern Rivers

Animal Services, that provides foster care and re-homing services for dogs and cats.



ARTS CULTURAL AWARD



Karen Rantissi a creative arts teacher at Empire Vale Public School, inspiring the school community by always looking for new learning experiences for her students.

SPORTS TEAM OF THE YEAR

Seagulls 1st Grade Rugby League Team premiers of the 2013 and 2014 Northern Rivers Rugby League competition. The Seagulls develop junior players by providing a safe environment that encourages teamwork, player potential, satisfaction and morale.

SPORTS ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR



Geoff Jacobs one of the founding members of the Ballina Bears Cricket Club, now celebrating its 25th anniversary, has been integral in the development of Far North Coast cricket.

YOUNG SPORTS PERSON OF THE YEAR

Joshua Brown is the current World Youth Board Champion and member of the Australian Youth Lifesaving Team, providing moral support to junior athletes.



COMMUNITY EVENT OF THE YEAR

Skullcandy Oz Grom Open (LeBa Boardriders Club) In three years the event has grown into the premier junior surfing competition in Australia, attracting over 3,000 visitors to Ballina Shire over six days of competition.

Photo: Courtesy Ballina Shire Advocate.



Meet Our Citizen of the Year

MARY O'BRIEN

Mary O'Brien opens her historic home and gardens and hosts various fundraisers and functions. Mary is an integral part of Sheraton House in Ballina that provides shelter and meals for up to ten homeless men every night.

What does it mean to me to be named Citizen of the year?

These awards show how much Ballina Shire Council appreciates all volunteers, and it is a lovely way of saying thankyou.

What do I hope to achieve in 2015?

On a national level I would like to see children released from immigration detention. On a local level I would like to see a soup kitchen or more support for the homeless.

How important are volunteers in our local area?

We cannot manage without volunteers and we need to encourage more young people to assist in this important work.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I like to spend time with my family. I also like to garden and would love to see more of Australia.

The best thing about Ballina Shire is...

When you live in Paradise what's not to like. The people are friendly and there is a real community spirit. My one regret is that we don't have a town hall, YET!

community connect



REZONING LAND – WHAT IS INVOLVED?

The rezoning of land to provide for urban development is a typical type of amendment to the local environmental plan that is considered by Council. There are also other types of amendments to the local plan that are contemplated from time to time.

Sometimes the Council initiates rezonings or plan amendment processes and at other times such processes are initiated by land owners or developers. Importantly proposals to rezone land for urban development are guided by Council's local growth management strategy. This plan sets out where Council envisages urban growth may occur. The growth management strategy will feature in a future edition of Community Connect.

Rezoning land is not a simple process and usually involves detailed assessment of key issues by Council. Council has a specific unit of staff that oversees and manages rezoning proposals. Key steps in the rezoning process are illustrated to the right. Importantly, Council can decide to cease a rezoning process at any point before a rezoning is completed. The progress of proposals and their final completion or discontinuation is overseen by the NSW Department of Planning and Environment and the NSW Minister for Planning.



Below are details of some of the LEP amendment requests and planning proposals currently being considered and processed by Council that have proceeded past the Gateway determination stage.

PROPOSAL	SUMMARY	STATUS
Southern Cross Industrial Estate Expansion, Ballina.	Rezone land north of Southern Cross Industrial Estate to enable a mixture of business and industrial land uses.	Assessment
Teven Road, West Ballina.	Establish freight transport facilities adjacent to Teven Road on the western side of the Ballina Bypass.	Assessment
Reservoir Hill Site, Lennox Head.	Apply a residential zone to the land known as the Reservoir Hill site in Lennox Head.	Assessment
Tara Downs (No 16), Lennox Head.	Rezone land immediately east of the Tara Downs Estate for residential purposes.	Assessment
Blue Seas Parade (No 44-52), Lennox Head.	Rezone land at the eastern end of Blue Seas Parade for residential purposes.	Assessment
Burns Point Ferry Road, West Ballina (Ballina Waterways).	Rezone land adjacent to Burns Point Ferry Road and River Street to enable a mixture of employment and residential land uses.	Assessment
Ballina Heights	Adjust the mix of R2 Low Density and R3 Medium Density residential zoning over undeveloped (but urban zoned) land at Ballina Heights.	Community Engagement
BLEP 2012 twelve month review.	"Housekeeping" amendments to the LEP following a review of the plan's operation since its commencement in February 2013.	Finalisation



Planning for the Cumbalum Ridge

After ten years the Council's strategic planning process for the Cumbalum Urban Release Area has been finalised. The final step in the process was the adoption of the Precinct A Development Control Plan and Developer Contributions Plan which was supported by the Council at its February meeting.

The Cumbalum Urban Release Area covers a large section of land from north of Ballina Heights to Ross Lane, between the Ballina Bypass and the Ballina Nature Reserve.

Council anticipates Precinct A, including Ballina Heights, will eventually accommodate a population of some 10,000 people. This will not happen overnight but expected to take between 20-30 years for all of the land in the urban release area to be developed.

The planning for the Cumbalum Urban Release Area has involved structure planning, environmental assessments undertaken during rezoning, infrastructure planning and the preparation of specialised development controls to guide the next stage of the development process which will involve the lodgement and assessment of development (subdivision) applications.



Ballina Major Regional Centre Strategy - Project Update

In 2006 the NSW Government identified Ballina as a developing Major Regional Centre. Council is continuing to engage with the community to determine what Ballina may look like in the future.

A series of background reports documenting Ballina as it is today, and ideas for the future, are currently being prepared and these will feed into the preparation of the Ballina Major Regional Centre Strategy.

We are hoping the reporting will be presented to the Council at the April or May meeting. A public exhibition process is then planned to enable for a second round of community involvement and feedback.

A draft strategy will then be prepared for public comment and once all input is received the project will be finalised, with the release of a 20 year vision and plan for Ballina.

Get Involved

- **PHONE** the project team on 6686 1284
- **EMAIL** BMRCS@ballina.nsw.gov.au
- Make a **WRITTEN SUBMISSION** to:
The General Manager
Ballina Shire Council
PO Box 450
BALLINA NSW 2478
-  Share **PHOTOS** that show things about Ballina that **you like, would like to see, or would like to change**, using the Instagram hashtag **#ballinafuture**.
- **MAP** your vision of Ballina's future using sMap.
To download visit ballina.nsw.gov.au/BMRCS
- **VISIT THE WEBSITE** for information and regular updates at ballina.nsw.gov.au/BMRCS

Council is keen to hear from you now so your views can be considered in preparing the strategy during 2015.

MYTH BUSTERS



THERE ARE DANGEROUS SHARKS IN SHAWS BAY

There are no dangerous sharks in Shaws Bay.

In early March members of the public reported seeing what they thought was a bull shark in Shaws Bay. The area was closed for several days to allow the Far North Coast Surf Lifesaving and the NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) to carry out inspections of the Bay.

There are no Bull sharks in Shaws Bay, but there is a resident Shovel Nose Ray shark. Staff from the DPI said the Ray shark is not able to bite a person because of the small size of its mouth but swimmers would naturally get a fright if they saw it. The DPI said there is also a large Trevally living in Shaws Bay and it scares people on a regular basis, nudging them as they swim.

An enquiry will be conducted into the possibility of relocating the Shovel Nose Ray shark to the Richmond River although some people believe the shark should remain in Shaws Bay because it is its natural habitat.

If the Ray shark remains in Shaws Bay there will no doubt be more public sightings which will result in the mobilisation of emergency services.

CAN SHARKS GET INTO SHAWS BAY?

No.

Shaws Bay does not open directly into the Richmond River.

If you have any other stories you would like clarified please email Council at mythbusters@ballina.nsw.gov.au

ballina coast & hinterland

MAKE VISITORS FEEL WELCOME

We are heading into a very busy time with the upcoming school holidays, the Easter long weekend and the Byron Bay Bluesfest generating more traffic and people on our beaches, in our parks, retail areas and other tourist attractions.

More than 630,000 people visit the Ballina Shire annually. Visitors stay a total of 950,000 nights and during their stay they spend \$150 million on goods and services.*

As locals we are all ambassadors for our Shire and we have the power to create a positive impression on visitors so that when they go home they will tell their family and friends about what a great time they had and how friendly the people are. Hopefully they will visit us again.

There are a number of small things that we can all do to make visitors feel welcome:

- Allow drivers in the traffic queue.
- Help with directions (if in doubt refer them to the Ballina Visitor Information Centre).
- Offer a smile and a friendly 'hello'.

Visitors are vital to our local economy, so it makes perfect sense to make them feel welcome!

(* source: Destination NSW)

Beach wheelchairs for hire

Ballina Visitor Information Centre has two beach wheelchairs available to hire free for anyone with a disability who would like to enjoy getting down on the sand by the river or the beach.

If you are interested, or know someone who would benefit, simply contact the Ballina Visitor Information Centre on freecall 1800 777 666 or email balinfo@ballina.nsw.gov.au to book your beach wheelchair.

All you need to do is complete the form and provide your identification and you are ready to go!

Previous users of the beach wheelchair have been thrilled and there are many return users.

Bookings are essential.



FOR THE *love of netball*

The Ballina Netball Association was extremely pleased to receive news that the State Government will provide \$25,000, with Ballina Shire Council and Ballina Netball contributing the remaining funds, to upgrade the lights at the Owen Street courts.

Council has also commenced urgent repairs to six courts; three asphalt courts will have all-weather surface applied, while the sealed courts will be repaired.

"This is an important step in securing the future of netball in the Ballina area," said Association President Kath Ellis.

"The more players we have on our courts, playing our game, the better.

"Again, congratulations to the hard-working committee which has campaigned for better facilities for Ballina netball."

Ballina Netball caters to 5 year-olds right through to adults. Junior and Senior competitions commenced 28 March.

Players aged from 5 to 8 interested in learning vital netball skills in the Net-Set-Go program have until 23 April to register. Email netballballina.bigpond.com or visit ballinana.nsw.netball.com.au



Pictured are the young members from the Net-Set-Go (5-8 year) program, the future of Ballina Netball and beneficiaries of the much needed upgraded facilities



Legendary Pacific Coast 'Then and Now'

The Sydney Weekender program on Channel 7 will host a series built on a Legendary Pacific Coast "Then and Now" tourism campaign theme looking back on the history and development of legendary destinations in New South Wales.

The program date for Ballina is Saturday 11 April 2015. With other destinations from Lake Macquarie to the Tweed to be televised throughout April and May.

Destination NSW has partnered with Apollo Motorhomes to develop a social media campaign across Sydney Weekender, The Legendary Pacific Coast and Apollo.

The major prize in this competition, which will be conducted through March to the 31 May, is a seven day Legendary Holiday in an Apollo Motorhome.



To enter visit the facebook pages for Sydney Weekender, The Legendary Pacific Coast and Apollo.



LATEST NEWS FROM *ballina byron* gateway airport

More long-term parking for passengers

Ballina Byron Gateway Airport is ready to deliver again on its passenger promise to “get there sooner” with the opening of the new car park extension for long-term parking.

The new car park will provide a further 143 car parking spaces and special rates will be available for long-term parking such as three days and two nights for just \$30. Access is very convenient with the airport terminal door just a few metres away.

The new car park will feature security fencing, landscaping, paving, bright lighting and covered parking with planning for more shade structures to be installed in the near future.

MORE FLIGHTS, MORE OFTEN

Ballina Byron Gateway Airport has flight services to suit every type of traveller, many of these flights are now daily.

There is a total of five Sydney flights per day with all our airline partners - Rex, Jetstar and Virgin Australia.

Jetstar's daily 9.10am flight to Sydney is proving popular with locals, especially with business travellers. The departing flight at 4.50pm Sundays is perfect for weekend visitors to our region who want to make the most of their stay.

Meanwhile, the more frequent Melbourne service is proving very popular. Last year flights to and from Melbourne increased from three days to seven days a week. The frequency shifts to five days a week in lower travel periods and back to seven days a week in peak travel times. By the end of 2015, the airport is aiming for ten direct flights per week to Melbourne.

Ballina Byron Gateway Airport is currently working with an airline to introduce direct flights to Brisbane – ideal for the FIFO market and those wanting to connect to other routes including intrastate, interstate and international.

Fly local...



Want to support a local? Then fly with us! The more travellers who support the airport, the more growth we can demonstrate to airline partners so we can grow flight services for locals, the business community and the economy.

Departures

Departs	Airline	Destination	Arrives
06:30	REX	SYDNEY	08:20
09:10	JETSTAR	SYDNEY	10:35
11:05	JETSTAR	MELBOURNE	13:15
11:55	REX	NEWCASTLE	13:15
		SYDNEY	14:20
16:00	VIRGIN	SYDNEY	17:25
16:50	JETSTAR	SYDNEY	18:15

Now up to 58 flights per week

Ballina Byron Gateway Airport offers up to seven flights a day, with up to 58 flights per week travelling to Sydney, Newcastle and Melbourne. There are daily services to Sydney and Newcastle and five or more direct flights to Melbourne every week. So whether your trip is for fun or for business, make Ballina Byron Gateway Airport your first choice and support your local airport.



Warm welcome to new fire station staff

Ballina Byron Gateway Airport has some new additions to the family: 17 fire station staff and a new \$12.5 million fire station.

We extend a warm welcome to our new colleagues, all of whom are new to Ballina and now living in the area with their families.

The station will operate seven days a week covering all regular passenger flights. The new facility became necessary due to Ballina Byron Gateway Airport's tremendous growth in passenger numbers in recent years. Aviation Safety Regulations require an Aviation Rescue Fire Fighting Service to be provided following a sustained increase in passenger numbers. As the airport continues to grow, passengers and visitors will now enjoy an added layer of safety and peace of mind.



meet a local

Tom Clarke



In this issue of Community Connect we introduce a new regular feature called 'Meet a Local'. Interviews are conducted by Klaus Kerzinger, a Strategic Planner with Ballina Shire Council, who is also profiled in this issue of Community Connect on page 15.

Whether residents have lived in Ballina Shire all their lives or are new to the area, most have a story to tell. We hope you enjoy this new feature in Community Connect.

Tom is 96 years old, turning 97 in September and he moved to Ballina's RSL Life Care Village about 15 years ago. He lives in a self-care unit overlooking North Creek. You may have seen Tom enjoying breakfast and the view most mornings from his unit. Tom still does all of his own cooking and other household chores. He has a visit once a week from a nurse and once a fortnight a cleaner comes in to tidy up.

Tom was educated in Lismore and he saw war service in Syria and New Guinea as part of the 2/4th Infantry Regiment. He was wounded in 1945 returning home from New Guinea after the war ended.

Upon Tom's return from war service he worked on the family farm at Tunttable Creek near The Channon, before moving to Dorrroughby. At Dorrroughby he had a 40 hectare dairy farm which he worked until he retired at the age of 80. Today the farm produces macadamia nuts and coffee.

Following the death of his wife Freda, Tom moved to Ballina. Tom reckons he has not seen a lot of change in Ballina over the past 15 years and he still gets around on his scooter, going into town for the occasional visit and meal. He thinks the best part of Ballina, and living near North Creek, are the views of the water, the people walking past and the cooling breezes.

Tom is an inspiration to those who know him. He has maintained life-long fitness through working on the land and is still sharper than many half his age. Tom also continues the tradition of farm folk moving to Ballina when they retire which has been evident since the early days of settlement. Another interesting fact about Tom is that he does not need glasses to read the morning newspapers.

If there was one thing he could change he said the rules around transporting veterans which have stopped him being picked up by a friend for trips into town.

KNOW THE RULES OUTSIDE SCHOOLS

The safety of our children is a priority for the entire community and this is why Council Rangers regularly patrol school zones. Children are extremely vulnerable because of their unpredictability, their size and inability to judge speed and distance. In fact, it's recommended that a parent or adult hold the hand of children under the age of eight when crossing the road, in the carpark, or when walking on a footpath.

Parking offences in school zones carry heavy fines and the loss of demerit points.



Remember...it is against the law to:

- stop and park in bus zones and 'No Stopping' zones
- double park
- stop longer than two minutes in a 'No Parking' zone
- stop on or within 20m of a pedestrian crossing or children's crossing



Our Rangers do a great job trying to keep school zones safe but unfortunately people can be very unkind when they realise they have been caught doing the wrong thing.

If you are caught parking in a school bus zone, over-staying the parking limit or having your dog in the wrong place – spare a thought for the Rangers. They are just doing their job. There is an expectation within the community that there needs to be laws regarding safety for children, parking and dogs etc. If you don't want to be fined – do the right thing.

**DRINKING
DON'T
DRIVE**



**RBT
MEANS
YOU NEED A
PLAN
B**





Extension on pool compliance

Don't be complacent. Use this time to make your pool safe

The NSW Government is providing an additional 12-months to give property owners more time to ensure that their swimming pool is compliant before their property is sold or leased.

Requirements for a property with a swimming pool to have a certificate of compliance before it can be sold or leased will now commence on 29 April 2016.

NSW councils and private certifiers say more than 95% of all pools do not comply with new laws at first inspection. Owners are also facing difficulties in securing contractors and materials to rectify their swimming pool barriers. Pool trades and services are under pressure to meet the current demand for repairs and upgrades to make swimming pool barriers compliant.

Ballina Shire Council is continuing its risk-based inspection programs including compulsory 3-year inspections for all tourist and visitor accommodation and multi-occupancy premises. Accredited certifiers will also continue to inspect pools and issue certificates of compliance. All pools must be registered on the NSW Swimming Pool Register.

For further information contact our Building Services Section on telephone 6686 1415.



klaus kerzinger

Where were you born and raised?

Igensdorf in Germany. We came to Australia when I was seven in 1964 and lived in my uncle's single garage in Blacktown until my parents bought in a new residential subdivision in St Marys.

How long with Ballina Shire Council and current role? 18-months and I'm a Strategic Planner, dealing mainly with rezoning and development control plan issues.

Klaus you've been in local government for a while, how long exactly and where have you worked previously?

I've been working in planning for almost 39 years, working mainly for councils in Sydney eg: Fairfield, Bankstown and Baulkham Hills. In 2003 we bought a house in Ballina, we planned to retire here but then a job came up so we came up earlier than expected – it's been worth it.

A favourite aspect of your role with Council?

I like getting out and meeting new people. I enjoy the workplace and I sit with other people who are not planners. Ballina Shire Council has a variety of interesting roles and people that fulfil those roles.

Most memorable moment while working in Local Government? When I was a trainee with Baulkham Hills Council in the early 1970s, I was asked to drive a former NSW parliamentarian from a retirement village in Castle Hill to a lunch appointment in Parliament House. While crossing the Sydney Harbour Bridge I realised I didn't have any toll money. I turned to my passenger, explained my dilemma, he then produced a gold medallion that afforded him free toll on the Bridge. He also insisted, that instead of finding a carpark, that I park right out the front of Parliament House steps and wait until he had finished his engagement within the House. For many years I thought this person was Jack Lang a former NSW premier of the Depression era. On researching Jack Lang more recently it

seems likely that the person I drove was instead James Lang, member of the NSW Legislative Assembly from 1946 to 1950 and Jack Lang's son.

What was your first impression coming to Ballina Shire? The ocean view from the Coast Road between Ballina and Lennox looking over Boulder Beach was an image I always took back with me every time we returned to Sydney.

We've been asking our community a series of short questions to help prepare the Ballina Major Regional Centre Strategy (see page 11 for more information):

- **What do you like about Ballina?** It's very accessible by foot and bike. I don't own a car anymore, my wife does though, I just like to walk and cycle everywhere.
- **What would you like to see in the next 20 years?** More employment opportunities for young people. It's a shame that so many people, particularly tradespeople, go through periods of no work and have to travel or relocate to chase work.
- **What would you like to change?** Engender a sense of stewardship. I see so much rubbish on my walks; people are just being careless leaving rubbish behind.

What do you do in your spare time? I like to kayak, walk, and ride my bike down to Wardell, via the Ferry and South Ballina.

Favourite movie? Marigold Hotel. I've also seen the sequel The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel which is currently showing. These movies portray older people as normal, active and making positive contributions to society, very much like our typical older Ballina residents.

Favourite music? I enjoy listening to Indigenous Aboriginal music, Gurrumul Yunupingu is a favourite.

I wish I had a special talent for anything musical. I envy people who can sing and play an instrument.

Footnote: Jack Lang, was premier of NSW for two terms (1925–27, 1930–32). The Sydney Harbour Bridge was opened on 19 March 1932, but just as Lang was to cut the opening ribbon Captain Francis de Groot rode up and broke the ribbon. Lang is the only Premier of an Australian state to have been dismissed by the state Governor.



Your free
MyRoadInfo
app

HELPING YOU GET AROUND IN WET WEATHER

Heavy rain in the Northern Rivers is a headache for many people, particularly those who live in low-lying areas. All Ballina Shire residents are urged to download the new, free MyRoadInfo app which is available for iPhones and Android devices.

MyRoadInfo includes the latest updates on road closures and delays from councils and the NSW Roads and Maritime Services (RMS). It is not only useful during significant rain events, but also bushfires, accidents, emergencies and natural disasters.

The app's most exciting feature is an automatic notification system. Using the 'favourites' function, users can nominate 10 favourite roads and then receive automatic notifications should accidents, storms or flooding occur.

The idea of providing an online information portal of road closures was conceived by Ballina Shire Council, following severe floods in 2006. The concept was initiated to provide a central source of road closure information that councils, the media and the public could rely on during extreme weather events.

Local media, particularly radio, has come to rely on the information during broadcasts and the RMS also promotes the MyRoadInfo service.

The MyRoadInfo concept has been further developed in association with NOROC councils over recent years and is now also used by North West Slopes and Mid North Coast Regions.

MyRoadInfo won an R.H. Dougherty Award in 2013 and in February 2014 was awarded the Government Communications Australia national award for 'Best Crisis Communications'.

Download your MyRoadInfo app from the Apple iTunes store or Google Play.

Beach Patrols in April

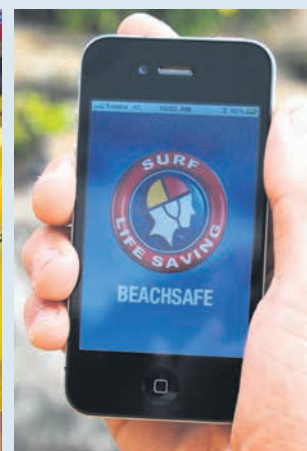
Lifeguard services will be provided on beaches in Ballina Shire over the Easter period and Autumn school holiday period, then services will wind down as the weather gets cooler.

Please swim between the flags. Patrols normally operate from 9am to 5pm.

Download the free iPhone application for up-to-date beach and surf safety information at beachsafe.org.au

BEACH	PATROLS START	PATROLS FINISH	DETAILS
Lennox Head Beach	22/09/2014	17/04/2015	Mon-Fri*, 9am-5pm (2 Lifeguards)
Sharpes Beach	03/04/2015	19/04/2015	7 days a week, 9am-5pm (2 Lifeguards)
Shelly Beach	03/04/2015	19/04/2015	7 days a week, 9am-5pm (1 Lifeguard)
Lighthouse Beach	03/04/2015	17/04/2015	Mon-Fri*, 9am-5pm (2 Lifeguards)

* Volunteers patrol at Lennox Head and Lighthouse Beaches on weekends and public holidays.



NO STOPPING ON YELLOW LINES

Council is reducing the number of regulatory parking signs and distractions on our roads. As part of this initiative you may notice painted yellow lines along the edge of the road instead of NO STOPPING signs.

Under NSW Road Rule 169 a continuous or unbroken yellow line along the edge of the road means 'NO STOPPING'. So don't stop for any reason except for medical or similar emergency.

Stopping at this line could cost you \$242.





wigmore arcade

Builders have now completed the refurbishment of Wigmore Arcade.

The refurbished light and airy arcade is a welcoming experience for shoppers and tenants who are happy with the works.

We thank our tenants, and their customers, for their patience during these works:

- Café Swish – which has expanded into Shop 145 with a new alfresco dining area adjoining the existing cafe
- Cathy Walshe Men's Hairdresser
- Corries – which has relocated into 141 River Street
- Daley's Gourmet Meats
- Tobacco Station – which has relocated into Shop 7.

We are pleased to welcome new tenants to the Wigmore Arcade complex:

- Creative Artisans
- B Town Collective
- L A Hair Design Ballina
- Dan's Gourmet Deli.

A new parents room/toilet is now available for the convenience of shoppers.

Landscaping works, including seating, is currently underway at the Winton Lane entrance, with the construction of new toilet amenities in the carpark to follow.

If you are interested in leasing space in the Wigmore Arcade complex please contact Council's Commercial Services Unit on telephone 6686 1239.



protect yourself against mosquito bites

Recent wet weather and warm conditions have created perfect conditions for mozzies. Mosquitoes spread diseases such as Ross River Fever virus, so it's important to take care to protect yourself and your family when mosquitoes are most active.

Cover up with loose fitting clothing, shoes and use an insect repellent. You can also reduce mosquito breeding areas by cleaning up your yard, emptying containers that hold water and flushing out pot plant bases. Make sure gutters are free of leaves and drain freely and that openings to septic tanks and water tanks are covered. Fly screens on windows, doors and chimneys are encouraged.

Ballina Shire Council is actively involved in mosquito monitoring during the warmer months and data is given to NSW Health to help manage mosquito-borne risk. Council is also working with developers to ensure new residential areas are designed to minimise the exposure of residents to mosquitoes.

For further information contact Council's Public and Environmental Health Section on telephone 6686 1210 or visit ballina.nsw.gov.au/mosquitoes

BACKYARD BURNING. Do you have a permit?



Ballina Shire Council has a Backyard Burning Policy that aims to prevent air pollution and eliminate smoke and odour from inefficient backyard burning.

Restrictions apply to backyard burning in urban and closely settled areas such as Alstonville, Ballina, Cumbalum, Lennox Head, Wardell and Wollongbar, however some exceptions do apply. Maps showing restricted areas can be downloaded from Council's website.

Even with an exemption, obligations to prevent or minimise pollution and take into account the potential impacts on any person do apply. Breaches may lead to a penalty infringement notice of up to \$1,000.

During the Bush Fire Danger Period a fire permit may be required for fires lit in the open. There are other general requirements at other times of the year. This policy will be reviewed shortly and community members will have the opportunity to provide feedback when the policy goes on exhibition in May/June 2015.

*For further information: Ballina Shire Council
6686 4444 ballina.nsw.gov.au/backyardburning*

*Bush Fire Information Line - Rural Fire Service
1800 NSW RFS (1800 679 737) rfs.nsw.gov.au*

Opportunity Knocks @ Opportunity Shops

Donating clothes, unwanted gifts, household items and furniture to opportunity shops is an easy way to keep the sustainability cycle of “reduce, reuse and recycle” moving along.

But what happens to your donated goods? Why should you bother donating? Is there anything in the opportunity shop that you might actually use?

WHERE DOES IT ALL COME FROM?

Often people have had a clear-out at home and they deliver items, they no longer want or need, direct to the opportunity shop. Most op-shops take clothes, books and household items. Only some take furniture (Ballina Bargain Centre, and the Salvation Army) and only the Ballina Bargain Centre and ADRA take electrical items. Not all op-shops can take all items, and they have to pay to send items to landfill if they are unable to use them.

Sometimes, when a person has passed away, relatives will call the op-shop, or charitable recycler, to clear out the remainder of a home.

HOW DOES THE OP-SHOP DECIDE WHAT TO STOCK?

Mostly, this comes down to experience of what is clean and re-usable. Items must have all their parts (buttons, both socks in a pair, the whole toy, all pages in a book!) to be resold. If it's not in good condition you are better

off putting your donation in the recycling or rubbish bin.

Some op-shops specialise in clothing and household items. Others have more space and can take larger furniture items, such as the Ballina Bargain Centre in Tamar Street or the Salvation Army Warehouse on Southern Cross Drive.

Op-shops are not legally allowed to on-sell donated baby and child safety car seats but they can be used by ADRA which passes on seats that are in good condition to families who can use them.

Electrical goods can be donated to some op-shops where volunteers with electrical expertise can test the safety of goods before re-use. Once again though, if something is not working, please don't 'donate' it.

Op-shops do receive some special items, such as vintage clothing or quality hand-made items. You can expect to pay more for these items but the proceeds from all op-shops go to supporting a good cause.

SO, WHAT HAPPENS TO THE MONEY THEY MAKE?

Op-shops are still shops, and they still have to make enough money to cover expenses such as rent, electricity, water, shopping bags (take your own!) and landfill disposal fees for items they cannot use.

Are you an avid op-shopper?
Or do you wander past wondering
who buys all that old stuff?

Council sponsors each charitable organisation up to a certain amount for disposal fees each year. Tip fees are a very large cost for charity op-shops getting rid of items that are dirty, not usable, broken or otherwise not saleable.

Money that is surplus to paying the bills is used in their community support services – and these are different depending on the focus of the organisation. The Westpac Rescue Helicopter Op-shop supports the Westpac Rescue Helicopter, of course! Lifeline supports people in crisis, with a particular focus on preventing suicide. It offers a telephone counselling service. Northern Rivers Animal Services Op-shop helps to desex, care for and rehome abandoned, abused and unwanted dogs and cats. Ballina Bargain Centre supports Food for Life, people needing crisis housing and many other on-the-ground local support services.

Many of the shops work locally as part of a larger network (such as Vinnies and the Salvos) to achieve their goals. Vinnies shops provide funds for crisis support for families and people in need, a homeless persons placement service, youth support programs run through local primary and high schools and migrant and refugee support services.

For more information go to:

vinnies.org.au

lifeline.org.au

salvos.org.au





FASTEST RECYCLED T-SHIRT BAG

Are you looking for a great, low-cost recycling project to do at home or with a group?

Why not re-purpose an unwanted t-shirt into a re-usable bag.

With just two quick seams and basic cutting, these t-shirt bags are strong and washable ready for the beach, library, groceries, gym or any purpose you can think of!



STEP 1:

Collect the following supplies:

Heavy weight cotton t-shirt (Youth size XL or Adult S or M work best), 3 - 5 pins, pencil or pen, dinner plate, scissors, sewing machine.

STEP 2:

Smooth your t-shirt flat on a table. Cut and remove the sleeves---make sure you leave the seam in place---this keeps your bag strong!

STEP 3:

Position a plate about halfway over the neck opening of the t-shirt. Trace the plate with your pencil or pen. This will be your cutting line to create the opening for your bag. Cut along the traced line.

STEP 4:

Turn the t-shirt inside out and pin the bottom of the t-shirt---along the hem---closed.

STEP 5:

Sew the bottom of the t-shirt hem closed. Reinforce by sewing over this seam a second time. As a variation add a "gusset" by sewing across the bottom corners at a right angle to box the corners.

STEP 6:

Turn the shirt right-side-out. YOU just made your own recycled bag! T-shirt bags are Machine Washable, Reusable and Strong! Just say NO to "paper or plastic"!

This project is sourced from instructables.com a great resource for more upcycle ideas.

GOLDEN RULES FOR DONATING TO THE OP-SHOP

1. If you can, donate during business hours. That way, volunteer staff can help you find the best location for your donation; not all shops are able to take all types of goods.
2. Ensure items can be recycled by the charity, as not all charities can recycle all items. Usually there is signage at the donations bin to let you know what can and can't be left.
3. Place your donations inside the bin. Unfortunately there is a high risk of theft when donations are left beside bins. If any of your donations do not fit the bin please drop-off at an op-shop during opening hours or call your preferred charity to arrange for pick-up.
4. Ask yourself, would you give this item to a friend in need (i.e. is it clean, undamaged and good quality)? If not, the op-shop probably doesn't need it either.
5. Put rubbish and damaged items in your rubbish or recycling bin at home.

Charitable Op-shop Locations

Adra Care
17 Kerr Street, Ballina

Anglicare
1 The Avenue, Alstonville
112 Tamar Street, Ballina

Bargain Basement
14 Bugden Avenue, Alstonville

Ballina Care Bargain Centre
77 Tamar Street, Ballina

Lifeline
212 River Street, Ballina

Northern Rivers Animal
Shelter Shop
2/68 River Street, Ballina

Salvos – Ballina
1/53 River Street (Family Store)
14 Southern Cross Drive (Warehouse)

Vinnies
25 Commercial Road, Alstonville
7 Martin Street, Ballina
64 Ballina Street, Lennox Head

Westpac Helicopter Rescue
2/8 Martin Street, Ballina

For a full list of locations in the Northern Rivers, collect your guide from the Visitor Information Centre, 6 River Street, Ballina.



Streetwise Skate Workshop

Saturday 25 April, 30 May, 20 June

**Ballina Skatepark,
Kingsford Smith Drive**

ballina.nsw.gov.au/sba



Skateboarding Australia, in partnership with local councils, has formed the Northern Rivers Skateboarding Hub. The main activities within the Hub are the free StreetWise clinics, which are part of a national grassroots development program designed to offer youth the opportunity to become actively involved in skateboarding. These clinics are delivered by nationally accredited coaches, who are dedicated skaters within the local scene. Registrations are taken on the day. Participants under 18 will need a parent/guardian to sign the registration form. All equipment is provided.

Mother's Day Classic

Sunday 10 May

**Missingham Park Amphitheatre,
Ballina**

mothersdayclassic.com.au



The Mother's Day Classic is an annual event held nationally to raise funds and awareness for breast cancer research.

Participants can register to run or walk the 4.5km course and do their own individual fundraising. Four-legged friends (on a lead) are welcome to participate for a gold coin donation. There will be prizes for the best dressed male, female & pooch.

Online pre-event registration is recommended, however on-the-day registration is also

available at 8am with the walk/run commencing at 9am.

Our Kids Day Out

Sunday 24 May

**Missingham Park Amphitheatre,
Ballina**

ourkids.org.au



Our Kids Day Out is held in Ballina at the amphitheatre and like previous years will be focused on children, especially those who have been in the children's ward and Special Care Nursery over the years.

There will be live children shows on stage as well as clowns, rides and food.

Displays from the SES, fire brigade, ambulance, helicopter and police will also be there.

This event is free for all and is a wonderful family day out to raise awareness and funds for the local charity Our Kids

Byron Bay to Ballina Coastal Charity Walk

Sunday 31 May

Start from Denning Park, Byron Bay

coastalcharitywalk.com.au



Walk some of the most spectacular coastline in Australia while helping to raise money for the Westpac Life Saver Rescue Helicopter.

The Byron Bay to Ballina Coastal Charity Walk (previously known as the Chopper Walk) is a 35km all-terrain challenge across sand, bush track and roads starting in Byron Bay, looping around Cape Byron Lighthouse and along the coastline to Ballina.

Open to individuals or teams, participants can choose to finish at Broken Head (12km), Lennox Head (24km) or go the full distance to Ballina (35km). Participants can walk or run at any pace, although it is a non-competitive social event.

Alstonville Main Street Family Fun Day

Saturday 31 May

alstonvillewollongbar.com.au



This year the Alstonville Lions Club, Alstonville Apex Club and Alstonville Wollongbar Chamber of Commerce combine their efforts to close the Main Street in Alstonville for a Family Fun Day.

There's something for everyone including the Main Street Markets, fun rides & face painting for the kids, live music and entertainment.

Special features will include the Federal Hotel's Birthday and the Lions Club Pig Races!

2015 Community Tree Planting Day

Friday 5 June 9am to 12noon

Top of Lennox Headland

ballina.nsw.gov.au



Photo courtesy Tony Partridge

Not afraid of a challenge? Take positive environmental action by joining GeoLink and Ballina Shire Council at the top of the headland to help plant some trees. Trees, mulch, water and some planting tools will be supplied. The Lennox business community and volunteer groups have generously donated a barbecue and refreshments.



Love Lennox Festival

Saturday 6 June

Ballina Street, Lennox Head



Photo courtesy Northern Star

Love Lennox Festival will be bigger and better this year, with the addition of the Love Lennox Jazz Festival, with music continuing into the evening.

Love Lennox Festival is a celebration of everything we love about Lennox Head – beautiful beaches, family ambience, superb quality food and drink, great music and exciting entertainment for all, with special events for kids. We're also planning a colourful street parade down the centre of the village. There will be entertainers, buskers and market stalls.

Ballina Lions 10th Fun Run Walk 2015

Sunday 7 June

Missingham Bridge Amphitheatre

ballinalions.com



Take part in the 10th Ballina Lions Fun Run Walk. The 5 and 10km courses are Australian Athletics certified and follow the picturesque foreshores of Ballina.

With around 500 entrants last year, the 2015 event is shaping up to be bigger and better.

Register online at **ballinalions.com**

NSW Police 100 years of Women in Police Baton Relay

Friday 12 June

Missingham Park Amphitheatre, Ballina



2015 marks 100 years of Women in Police and to celebrate the NSW Police is conducting a baton relay throughout NSW to showcase and celebrate women in police. The Richmond Local Area Command leg of the relay will commence at the Big Prawn and travel to Missingham Bridge Amphitheatre where there will be a small ceremony to celebrate the centenary and other activities including stalls, competitions, displays, and a BBQ.

laugh a minute

The inaugural Laugh-a-Minute for Mankind, sanctioned by the United Nations as part of 2015 International Day of Happiness, was officially launched at Ballina Public School on Friday 20 March. Media partner Paradise FM hope the contagious laughter from this annual event spreads throughout Ballina Shire.



ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATIONS

Saturday 25 April

see page 4 for further details

STREETWISE SKATE WORKSHOP

Saturday 25 April, 30 May, 20 June

Ballina Skatepark, Kingsford Smith Drive
ballina.nsw.gov.au/sba

MOTHER'S DAY CLASSIC

Sunday 10 May

Jo Parker 0413 676 136

mothersdayclassic.com.au

OUR KIDS DAY OUT

Sunday 24 May

Rebekka Battista 6620 2705

ourkids.org.au

BYRON BAY TO BALLINA COASTAL CHARITY WALK

Sunday 31 May

Louise Jordan 6627 4444

coastalcharitywalk.com.au

ALSTONVILLE MAIN STREET FAMILY FUN DAY

Sunday 31 May

Richard Lutze 6628 5048

alstonvillewollongbar.com.au

2015 COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING DAY

Friday 5 June 9am to 12noon

Top of Lennox Headland

GeoLINK 02 6687 7666

LOVE LENNOX FESTIVAL

Saturday 6 June

Neil Kennedy 0414 337 009

admin@lovelennox.com.au

BALLINA LIONS 10TH FUN RUN WALK

Sunday 7 June

Joyce Emmett 6686 9005

ballinalions.com

NSW POLICE 100 YEARS OF WOMEN IN POLICE BATON RELAY

Friday 12 June

SC Helen Crawford 6626 0599

craw1hel@police.nsw.gov.au

Community Events hosted between July and September will be published in the next issue of Community Connect.

Fluoride dosing for Marom Creek Water Treatment Plant

New equipment has been installed at the Marom Creek Water Treatment Plant and the Wardell community is now receiving fluoridated water.

Other Ballina Shire residents should expect fluoridated water to be turned on by the middle of this year. Residents do not need to do anything in preparation for fluoridated water, when the change is implemented residents should not notice any difference in taste or water quality.

For residents who would prefer not to use fluoridated water, reverse osmosis units can be purchased through specialist suppliers.

For more information go to:

Rous Water: rouswater.nsw.gov.au

NSW Health: <http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/environment/water/Documents/fluoridation-questions-and-answers-nsw.pdf>



REMEMBER THE THREE P'S... pee, poo and paper down the toilet.

Wet wipes are clogging up our wastewater systems because although they will flush down toilets, they take months to break to down.

Other items such as nappy wipes, cleansing wipes, nappies, cotton wool, make-up pads, cotton buds, dental floss, sanitary items and condoms should also be put in the bin.

Even products labelled 'flushable' should not be flushed as they do not disintegrate like toilet paper. Toilet paper breaks down in minutes but other products remain intact even after months submerged in water.

These products block pipes and get caught in the equipment at our wastewater treatment plants and pump stations, which not only causes breakdowns but adds to operating costs.

Residents may also find these products can even clog up pipes on private property, and could result in a costly plumber's bill to remove them.

The clear message is to remember the three P's – and only flush pee, poo and paper down the toilet.



Smith Drive, West Ballina – Pimlico – Uralba Water Pipeline

Ballina Shire Council is looking to save 120,000 kilolitres of water per year by replacing one of its oldest water mains in the Shire. Construction of the new 4.5 kilometre water pipeline will occur between Uralba and the Smith Drive industrial area in West Ballina.

Construction of the pipeline will commence in April 2015 and is expected to take several months. There may be some temporary disruptions to water services during the construction phase, and Council will inform residents when this is likely to occur.

For more information on the project, contact the Water Group on 6686 4444.



LATEST NEWS FROM ROUS WATER

New Knockrow Water Reservoir Commissioned

Rous Water has commissioned a new 10 megalitre water supply reservoir at Knockrow. The reservoir provides water to Ballina Shire Council's water supply system which in turn distributes water to customers in Ballina and Lennox Head.

The new reservoir replaces the existing 1 megalitre reservoir adjacent to the Pacific Highway. At a cost of around \$5 million, the new Knockrow reservoir is a critical part of the bulk water supply system for areas of Ballina Shire. The upgrade allows for greater security and reliability of water supply to Ballina and Lennox Head, and caters for anticipated population and housing growth in these areas. From an operational perspective, it also allows Rous Water to make better use of all water sources for Ballina Shire residents including Emigrant Creek Dam.



Pump station that feeds water to Newrybar from the Knockrow Reservoir. Newrybar is at a higher elevation to the reservoir and requires pumps to deliver water to properties at Newrybar.

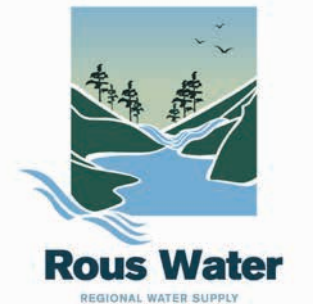
New Rebates

From the 1st of April there will be new rebates available for residents on town water.

Ballina Shire residents will be able to access rebates for rainwater tanks or connection to recycled water (which is a drought proof source).

Terms and conditions apply.

For more information visit rouswater.nsw.gov.au or telephone 6621 8055



BALLINA SHIRE COUNCIL'S

PRESSURE AND LEAKAGE Management Plan

You may have seen Council staff digging for water pipes around town over the past few months, the work was part our plan to reduce water loss and the work is now complete.

The Shire was divided into different water zones so that Council can reduce water losses and improve service by:

- > More quickly locating and fixing leaks and breaks
- > Reducing unnecessarily high water pressure

Council thanks the community for their patience and cooperation during traffic and water interruptions that occurred during this program.

For more information please phone the Water Group on 6686 4444



THE RECYCLING REVOLUTION

bag the bag

You can now recycle plastic bags and all soft plastics including cling wrap, fruit and veggie bags, bubble wrap and soft packaging from toilet paper etc. Place them in a white plastic bag and tie them up.

roads paved with glass

All glass and crockery will be crushed into sand and used for road base. Pyrex, drinking glasses, crockery and window glass are now accepted in your recycling bin along with glass bottles and jars. No windscreens please.

no strings attached

String, rope and electrical cable can tangle around the MRF machinery, hindering the recycling process. Please do not place these items in your recycling bin.

don't wash

Recyclable containers need to be empty and free of food but they don't need to be washed. Save water and elbow grease. Some MRF rules make your life easier!

loosen up

Place recyclables into the bin loose, not stacked inside one another or in plastic bags. This excludes polystyrene and soft plastics.

leave the label

The labels on bottles and containers wash off during the recycling process. There is no need to remove them.

clean polystyrene

Clean, bagged polystyrene can now be placed in the recycling bin. Place it into a plastic bag and tie it up. Please no beanbag beans.

harden up

You can place all hard plastics in your recycling bin regardless of whether they display the triangle or not. This includes plastic tableware and cutlery, toys and plant pots.

no food please

Food and food-spoiled containers such as pizza boxes belong in your organics bin. Please do not put them in your recycling bin.

put a lid on it

You can now leave the lids on all your recyclables. Put the lid back on your plastic bottles and containers, glass jars and bottles (including twist tops) and put them in your recycling bin.

every little bit counts

Place all small plastics, such as bread tags and straws, in an empty milk bottle with the lid on and place in your recycling bin. They are too small for the MRF machinery to remove on their own but are still a valuable resource.

further information

Waste Management Centre
Ph: 02 6686 1287
ballina.nsw.gov.au

ballina
shire council



WHAT GOES IN THE YELLOW BIN?

- paper and cardboard
- plastic bottles
- aluminium cans and foil
- all glass and crockery
- plastic tableware
- aerosols
- hard plastics like kids toys
- bagged plastic bags
- bagged soft plastics
- bagged polystyrene
- plastic lids, tags and straws



Let's keep plastic out of landfill

Thanks to the new Lismore MRF, we can all recycle plastic bags and soft plastics now, reducing the amount of plastic going to landfill. Instead, it is made into new plastic products.

This is a huge step and it really is revolutionary – as far as we know. However, the system relies on everyone to do the right thing.

So... hang up a white plastic bag in your kitchen, somewhere easy to reach. Fill it with all your other plastic bags and any clean, soft plastics.

This includes a huge range of stuff you probably use on a day-to-day basis including:

- Frozen food packaging.
- Toilet paper, paper towel, nappy packaging etc.
- Salad, fruit and veggie bags.
- Plastic wrappers.
- Cling wrap and bubble wrap.
- Pasta and rice packets.

Once your plastic bag is full, tie it up and place it in your yellow recycling bin.

No mess, no fuss.

It's an easy change and it will make a huge difference to the environment. Keep in mind that ALL hard plastics should be thrown in the yellow recycling bin loose – these should NOT be placed in plastic bags.

KEEPING A CLOSE EYE ON DUMPING



Ballina Shire Council spends more than \$100,000 a year cleaning up waste dumped on river banks, reserves, roadsides and parks.

Council will soon install surveillance cameras in illegal dumping hot-spots to hopefully reduce the incidence of dumping. It will also increase education programs regarding the environmental and public health impacts of dumping.

Cameras have been used successfully in other regional areas of NSW in reducing illegal dumping and catching dumpers. On-the-spot dumping fines in NSW increased recently to \$4,000 for individuals and \$8,000 for corporations. In addition to the fine, dumpers will also be required to clean up the dumped materials or pay clean-up costs. If hazardous materials such as paints, chemicals or asbestos are dumped the fines are even greater.

Residents can report illegal dumping online at illegaldumping.com.au or phone Ballina Shire Council on 6686 4444.



Representatives from Local Government, National Parks and Wildlife and NSW Environmental Protection Authority trying out the new surveillance cameras.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE HOUSEHOLDER ASBESTOS DISPOSAL SCHEME

...before it runs out!

In collaboration with six Northern Rivers councils and North East Waste (NE Waste) the Householder Asbestos Disposal Scheme (HADS) is part of the State Government's commitment to reduce illegal dumping and enhance waste services across New South Wales.

Residents thinking of renovating their homes and disposing of asbestos are urged to participate in the scheme. Residents can dispose up to 5 tonnes, once only. Householders disposing of less than 10 square metres are able to take advantage of the Householder Asbestos Kit.

Kits cost \$120 and include safety gear, bags, asbestos removal instructions and access to the disposal subsidy. Kits can be collected from the Waste Management Centre at 167 Southern Cross Drive, Ballina.

You have until 30 June 2015 to participate.

For more information visit newaste.org.au or contact Ballina Shire Council on telephone 6686 4444.

50% OFF Disposal Fees

ASBESTOS

Householder Disposal Scheme

Ends 30 June 2015. Conditions apply

Householder Kits available from Council

For more information visit www.newaste.org.au or contact Ballina Shire Council 02 6686 4444

This project is a NSW EPA Waste Less, Recycle More initiative funded from the waste levy.



ballina shire council



newaste
north east waste

NSW EPA

Community recycling centre

A free disposal service for paint and chemicals

The disposal of paints, chemicals and problem waste products can be a costly and time-consuming exercise as these products cannot be put into household wheelie bins. Ballina Shire Council is working on a permanent solution to this problem with a new Community Recycling Centre to be built at the waste management centre (aka tip) on Southern Cross Drive near the airport.

A \$109,000 grant from the NSW Government's Waste Less Recycle More initiative will fund the new Community Recycling Centre which will be a drop-off centre for waste that includes paint, oils, batteries, gas cylinders, smoke detectors and fluorescent lights. This will be a free service for Ballina shire residents.

Construction of the Community Recycling Centre is scheduled to begin in the 2015/16 financial year.

MAKE A PLEDGE TO RECYCLE MORE

We live in one of the most diverse regions in the world, with an abundance of natural beauty worth preserving. Around 20% of our rubbish bins contain materials which should have gone into the recycling bin. Recycling is one way you can act to make a difference. Recycling saves water and energy and creates less landfill.

Make your pledge to recycle more at newaste.org.au recycle and be in the winning for some great prizes made out of recycled products.

newaste
north east waste



What to do during the *School Holidays*

Looking for something to do with the kids or grandchildren over the school holidays? There's something to satisfy all interests including educational, sporty and creative activities to keep the kids entertained.

EDUCATIONAL

Water Lab Wednesdays

Visit the Water Science Lab and take on several of the Water Challenges.
8 and 15 April. Open 10am to 3pm, last entry 2pm.
Have a day of water science fun and follow with a picnic, play and bushwalk at Rocky Creek Dam.
Ages 5 to 14 years with a supervising adult.
Dorroughby Environmental Education Centre
210 Dunoon Road, Dorroughby.
watersciencelab.com.au

Australian Seabird Rescue Tours

Tours start 7 April
\$5 entry fee
10am to 11am
Monday to Fridays
during school holidays
264 North Creek Road, Ballina
Ph: 6686 2852
Email: admin@seabirdrescue.org
seabirdrescue.org

Ballina Library

Range of craft activities – bookings essential
8 River Street, Ballina
Ph: 6686 2831
Email: rtrl@rtrl.nsw.gov.au
rtrl.nsw.gov.au

Lennox Head Library Workshop

Lennox Library are turning the children's area into a pizza shop. Come in any day of the school holidays to make a paper pizza and ice cream cone. No need to book. DIY with materials provided.
Library Hours:
Mon – Fri 9.30am – 5pm,
Saturday 9-12pm
Lennox Head Cultural & Community Centre
Ph: 6687 6398
Email: rtrl@rtrl.nsw.gov.au
rtrl.nsw.gov.au

Ballina Naval & Maritime Museum

Explore the history & enjoy the extensive displays
9am to 4pm
Open 7 days
Regatta Avenue, Ballina
Ph: 6681 1002
ballinamaritimemuseum.org.au

FAMILY FUN

Amaze N Place

Free alpaca feeding every day at 11am plus lattice maze, puzzles, sandpit, cubby house and café
Open 10am – 4.30pm
Closed Good Friday
Open school holidays only
149 Wardell Road, Alstonville
Ph: 6628 6286
amaze-n-place.com.au

Ballina Tenpin Bowl

Holiday Special 2 Games for \$14 glow in the dark bowling.
12-4pm and after 7pm
Open 7 days
16 Clark Street, Ballina
Ph: 6686 5342
ballinatenpinbowl.com.au

Macadamia Castle

Keeper For a Day
Learn about the conservation of local wildlife and animal enrichment
\$125 per person (includes lunch)
Ages 12 to 18 years
Bookings essential

Full program of daily activities, animal feeding & Frog Pod Conservation Research Centre
8am – 5pm
Open 7 days
1699 Pacific Highway, Knockrow
Ph: 6687 8432
Email: info@macadamiacastle.com.au
macadamiacastle.com.au

Summerland House Farm

Water spray park, gardens, playground, mini golf, heritage cottage, The Grocer & Café
9am-4pm
Open 7 days
253 Wardell Road, Alstonville
Ph: 6628 0610
summerlandhousefarm.com.au

Teven Valley Golf Course + FOOTGOLF

Beautiful 9 hole golf course and from midday enjoy FootGolf – a hybrid of golf & soccer
8am to dusk
Open 7 days
1684 Eltham Road, Teven
Ph: 6687 8386
tevenvalleygolfcourse.com.au

Thursday Plantation

Enjoy the Verandah Café, Rainforest Walk, Sculpture Garden and Tea Tree Maze
Open weekdays from 9am-5pm and weekends from 10am-4pm
Closed Good Friday
Gallans Road, Ballina
Ph: 6620 5150
thursdayplantation.com

Ballina Fair Shopping Centre

Little Green Thumbs

Experience hands on gardening fun with this FREE activity
10am - 2pm
Wednesday 8 April – Saturday 11 April, outside Target

Hands on Sugarcraft Fun with the Cake Decorators Guild Far North Coast

10am – 3pm
Monday 13 April – Saturday 18 April
Gold Coin Donation
Cnr Kerr & Fox Streets, Ballina
Ph: 6686 8555
Email: info@ballinafairshopping.com.au
ballinafairshopping.com.au

Ballina Fair Cinemas

New release movies
Open 7 days
Cnr Kerr & Fox Streets, Ballina
Ph: 6686 9600
ballina.info/cinema

Cherry Street Sports Club

Tennis court and racquet hire, barefoot bowls, playground and outdoor TV.
Open 7 days
Cnr Cherry & Bentinck Streets, Ballina
Ph: 6686 2811
Email: info@cherrystreet.com.au
cherrystreet.com.au

Crystal Castle

Magic gardens, ancient labyrinth and rainforest
10am to 5pm
Open 7 days
Closed Good Friday
81 Monet Drive, Mullumbimby
Ph: 6684 3111
Email: info@crystalcastle.com.au
crystalcastle.com.au

Richmond Princess River Cruises

Enjoy morning or afternoon tea aboard the Richmond Princess cruising the Richmond River
10am-12noon or 2-4pm
Wednesdays and/or Saturdays/Sundays
Bookings Essential
Regatta Avenue, Ballina
Ph: 1800 777 666
rrcruises.com.au

Lake Ainsworth

Splash in the fresh tea-tree waters. Picnic & BBQ facilities available
Pacific Parade, Lennox Head

Victoria Park Nature Reserve

300m boardwalk loop with BBQ and picnic facilities in the picturesque "Big Scrub" remnant. Collect the 30 Great Walks brochure from the Visitor Centre for many more walks in the region.
Victoria Park Road, Dalwood
Ph: 6627 0200
nationalparks.nsw.gov.au

Ballina Memorial Pool and Waterslides

Three pools - toddlers pool, learn-to-swim pool, 50m Olympic pool & two waterslides
Monday to Friday 6am to 6pm
Saturday 8am to 6pm
Sunday & Public Holidays 9am to 6pm
4 River Street, Ballina
Ph: 6686 3771

Alstonville Olympic Pool

Three pools: toddlers pool, learn-to-swim pool, and 50m Olympic pool.
Monday to Friday 6am to 6pm, Saturday 8am to 6pm, Sunday & Public Holidays 10am to 6pm.
Closed Good Friday.
Alston Avenue, Alstonville
Ph: 6628 0826



Ballina Fair Swim & Gym

Indoor heated pool
One stop training venue
Ballina Fair Shopping Centre
Ph: 6686 8299

Ballina Boat Hire

Tinnies or BBQ boats for hire.
Available 7 days a week.
268 River Street,
Ballina
Ph: 0402 028 767

SPORTY FUN

Kayak Ballina

Guided Kayak Tours of Ballina's
beautiful waterways.
Basic skills lesson included
Daily – bookings essential
Open 7 days
Ph: 6681 4000
kayakballina.com

Tassiriki Ranch Beach Horse Riding

Daily tours
Open 7 days
Moylans Road, Empire Vale
Ph: 6683 4602
tassirikiranch.com.au

Pegasus Park Horse Riding

Daily tours
Open 7 days
946 Friday Hut Road, Tintenbar
Ph: 6687 1446 or
0428 871 446
pegasuspark.com.au

Lennox Head Sport & Recreation Centre

Camp adventure activities
Kids club (day only)
7-10 April for 7-12yo, \$185
Kids club (day only)
13-17 April for 7-12yo, \$225
Adventurer 7-10 April for
7-12yo, \$320
Bookings: 6687 7168
dsr.nsw.gov.au

Sports Camp Australia Junior Soccer Camp

Learn Soccer Skills for ages
6-16 years
15-17 April, 9am – 3pm
Lake Ainsworth Sport &
Recreational Centre
Bookings Essential:
1800 753 127
sportscampsaustralia.com.au

Lennox Head Skate Park

Park Lane, Lennox Head

Missingham Skate Park

Kingsford Smith Drive, Ballina

Byron Bay Air Charters

Scenic Coastal Flights
Departs Ballina-Byron
Gateway Airport
Daily Tours. Open 7 days
Southern Cross Drive, Ballina
Ph: 6686 4876
Email: info@byronbayaircharter.com.au
byronbayaircharter.com.au

Classic Aero Adventure Flights

Take a scenic flight in a genuine
ex-RAAF warbird plane.
Departs Ballina-Byron
Gateway Airport
Daily Tours. Open 7 days
Southern Cross Drive, Ballina
Ph: 0432 318 282
classicaero.com.au

The Bicycle Emporium

Hire a retro or fat bike and
explore the cycleways
Open 7 days
158 River Street. Ballina
Ph: 6681 4054
[facebook.com/
thebicycleemporium](http://facebook.com/thebicycleemporium)

Sunrise Cycles

Hire a bike and ride along the
Richmond River
Mon-Fri 8am-5.30pm
Sat 8am - 2pm
3 Hogan Street, Ballina
Ph: 6686 6322
[facebook.com/
sunrisecyclesballinabyron](http://facebook.com/sunrisecyclesballinabyron)

Transition Cycles

Hire a bike and ride along the
Richmond River
Mon, Wed & Fri 9am – 5pm,
Thurs 9am – 5.30pm &
Sat 9am – 1pm
49 River Street, Ballina
Ph: 6686 6522
[facebook.com/
transitioncyclesballina](http://facebook.com/transitioncyclesballina)

Surf Lessons with Kool Katz

Learn how to hang ten with surf
lessons. All equipment provided.
Daily lessons. Open 7 days
Ballina & Lennox Head
Ph: 6685 5169
koolkatzsurf.com

Surf & Stand Up Paddle Board Lessons with Mojo Surf

Learn how to surf or Stand Up
Paddle board. All equipment
provided
Daily lessons. Open 7 days
Ballina & Lennox Head
Ph: 1800 113 044
[mojosurf.com/products/
byron_bay_surf_school](http://mojosurf.com/products/byron_bay_surf_school)

Stand Up Paddle Board Lessons with Byron Explora

Learn how to Stand Up Paddle
Board
All equipment provided
Daily lesson
Open 7 days
Ballina & Lennox Head
Ph: 0457 055 024
Email: info@byronexplora.com.au
byronexplora.com.au

GET CREATIVE

Kidz Klub at Lennox Head Cultural and Community Centre

8, 9, 10 April &
15, 16, 17 April
\$20 per session per child or
\$40 per child full day
Morning, Afternoon or Full Day –
Bookings essential
1 Mackney Lane, Lennox Head
Ph: 6687 6291

Alstonville Dance Studio Holiday School

Easter Workshops –
Ballet, Jazz, Contemporary, Tap
and Musical Theatre
Ph: 6686 2520 or 0428 748 294

Lennox Art Collective Pop Up Workshops

Every Tuesday
11am - 12.30pm and 1-2.30pm
\$20 per class
Ages 5 to 10 years.
Ballina St, Lennox Head (behind
the chemist next to Vinnies)
Bookings essential:
Fiona Reddoch 0403 841 330

EVENTS

Cherry Street Bowling Club

Easter Sunday Fun Day
with jumping castle, free bubble
football and giveaways.
5 April, 2015 from 1pm
Cnr Cherry & Bentinck Streets,
Ballina
Ph: 6686 2811
Email: info@cherrystreet.com.au
cherrystreet.com.au

*If you are hosting school holiday
activities contact the Ballina
Visitor Information Centre on
telephone 1800 777 666 or email
balinfo@ballina.nsw.gov.au to
include your details in the School
Holiday Activities Program. This
is made available to visitors via
discoverballina.com*

market calendar

There is a market or
two held every weekend
in the Ballina Shire.
Discover original artworks,
handicrafts, fashion,
jewellery, second hand
goods, as well as fresh
local produce...or just sit
back relax and enjoy the
sights and sounds of your
local market.

BALLINA MISSINGHAM FARMERS MARKET

Kingsford Smith Drive

Every Sunday

6am – 12noon

0416 048 241

ALSTONVILLE FARMERS MARKET

Bugden Lane Car Park

(behind Quattro Country)

Every Saturday

8am – 12noon

0478 163 038

THE PLATEAU MARKET

Alstonville Showground

2nd Sunday

8am – 12.30pm

6628 1568

BALLINA COMMUNITY MARKETS

Canal Road

3rd Sunday

7am – 1pm

6687 4328

LENNOX COMMUNITY MARKETS

Williams Reserve

2nd & 5th Sunday

From 8am

lennoxmarket@gmail.com



what's on at your local community facility

Ballina Shire Council provides a diverse range of quality spaces that cater for thousands of bookings every year; from community meetings and events to private functions, recreational classes and corporate seminars. All of these fantastic spaces are available to hire by individuals, community groups, businesses and organisations.

To hire a community space, please contact one of our friendly staff on 6687 6291 or email communityspaces@ballina.nsw.gov.au



LENNOX HEAD CULTURAL & COMMUNITY CENTRE (LHCCC)
1 Mackney Lane, Lennox Head



KENTWELL COMMUNITY CENTRE (KCC)
20 Bangalow Road, Ballina



BALLINA SURF CLUB FUNCTION ROOMS (BALLINA SC)
65 Lighthouse Parade, Ballina



THE RICHMOND ROOM (RR)
Regatta Avenue, Ballina



ALSTONVILLE LEISURE & ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE (ALEC)
42-46 Commercial Road, Alstonville

COMMUNITY GROUPS

Alstonville Book Club

ALEC
1st Monday of the Month
10:30am – 12:00pm
Alstonville Library 6628 5527

AMORC

KCC
3rd Saturday of the Month
2:00pm – 4:00pm
Lyn Evans 0401 766 754
amorc.org.au

Ballina Camera Club

KCC
2nd and 4th Thursdays of the Month
6:00pm – 9:00pm
Mark Davis 6686 6915 or email mark@baaf.com.au

Sing Australia

KCC
Every Tuesday Evening
7:00pm – 9:00pm
Barbara 6628 1557 / 0412 660 472

The Silver Smiths

KCC
Every Wednesday Evening
5:00pm – 6:00pm
Helen 6681 6357 or Jennie 6686 5663

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Broadband for Seniors

KCC
Mondays and Thursdays
8:30am – 12:30pm
Phone 6687 6291

Northern Rivers No Interest Loans

KCC
Tuesdays
10:00am – 4:00pm
6621 7397

Interrelate Ltd: Outreach Program

KCC
Wednesdays and Fridays
9:00am – 5:00pm
Phone 6623 2750

Northern Rivers Gambling Counselling Service

KCC
By Appointment
Phone 6687 2520
www.buttery.org.au

RSL Tibouchina Day Club

ALEC
Wednesday
10:00am – 2:00pm
Graham 6628 7196

Ballina Lighthouse RSL Day Club

RR
Thursdays
10:00am – 2:00pm
Fay 6686 3517
Lorraine 6687 4350

HEALTH & WELLBEING

Australian Red Cross Blood Service

RR
Various Mondays and Tuesdays
Each Month
1:30pm – 7:00pm
Pre arrange an appointment.
Phone 13 14 95

Provide First Aid and CPR Classes

LHCCC
Various Dates
9:00am – 5:00pm
Nancy 1300 275 628

Breast Cancer Support Group

KCC
1st Thursday of the Month
10:00am – 11:30am
Robyn
0413 027 446

General Cancer Support Group

Ballina SC
2nd Thursday of the Month
10:00am – 11:30am
Robyn
0413 027 446

Cannabis Clinic

KCC
Tuesdays
9:30am – 3:30pm
1300 664 098

Forever Young

SC
Fridays
9am – 10am
1300 085 181

Deirdre Middlehurst Clinical Psychologist

LHCCC
Thursdays
8.00am – 5.00pm
Deirdre
0481 094 709



Ujali Yoga with Jess

LHCCC
Monday, Tuesdays,
Wednesdays & Thursdays
6:00pm – 7:30pm
Jess 0468 348 015

Rachel Reid's Dance Academy

LHCCC
Wednesdays
3:30pm – 8:00pm
Rachel
0402 424 504

INTRA: The Buttery's Drug & Alcohol Outreach Program

KCC
Wednesdays
1:30pm – 3:00pm
Phone 6687 2835

Physical Culture

ALEC
Tuesdays
3:30pm – 6:30pm
Jenna 0406 774 992

Bulk Billing Psychologist

LHCCC
Every Tuesday
8:00am – 5:00pm
Chris 0413 725 471

Paediatrician

LHCCC
Every Wednesday & Friday
8:00am – 6:00pm
Dr Uli Schmidt
02 5622 6020
reception@drulikeschmidt.com.au

SOL North Coast Nutrition

KCC
2nd and 4th Monday
8:00am – 12:00pm
Christina 6680 8576

Sacred Women's Circle

LHCCC
Last Wednesday every month
7:30pm – 9:00pm
Dominica 0439 678 866

Purna Yoga with Tamika

Ballina SC
Tuesdays and Thursdays
6:00pm – 7:00pm
Tamika
0439 451 493

Feldenkrais Movement Class

LHCCC
Tuesdays 4:30pm–5:30pm
Lyn 6687 6815

Healthy Lifestyles by CHEGS

LHCCC
Tuesday
10:00am – 11:00am
6620 7523 / 0409 349 891

Alstonville Aikido

ALEC
Mondays and Wednesdays
7:30pm – 9:00pm
Jim 0404 281 003

Northern Rivers Occupational Therapy

KCC
Last Friday of month
8:30am – 8:30pm
Roshan 6681 6995 or
0430 358 301

SPORT, GAMES AND COMPETITIONS

Ballina Netball Association

ALEC
Tuesdays 6:00pm - 9:30pm
Thursdays 6:00pm - 9:30pm
Tanya 6628 3533

Lennox Head Life Ball

LHCCC
Tuesdays 9:30am - 11:30am
Yvonne 6687 6238
Trish 0411 272 685

Alstonville Life Ball

ALEC
Mondays 10:00am – 12:00pm
Julie 0413 086 325

United Gymnastics Academy

ALEC
Mon, Wed and Thurs 4:00pm
Kindy Gym 9:30am
Tanya 6628 3533

KIDS & BABIES

Angelina Ballerina Dance Academy

LHCCC
Tuesdays 10am – 11am
Phone 0414 827 155

Lennox Head Playgroup

LHCCC
Tuesdays and Fridays
9:30am - 11:30am
(during school terms only)
Jessica 6687 5745

Kidz Klub

LHCCC
April School holidays
Wed 8, Thurs 9, Fri 10,
Wed 15, Thurs 15, Fri 17 April
9:30am – 4:00pm
Trudi 0429 770 147

Kids French in Action

LHCCC
Thursday 4:00pm – 5:00pm
0481 355 773

IN THE LIBRARIES

Baby Bounce

ALEC 6628 5527
Thursday 10:30am
Ballina 6686 2831
Monday 10:30am
LHCCC 66876291
Wednesday 10:30am

Story Time

ALEC 6628 5527
Tuesday 11:00am
Ballina 6686 2831
Tuesday & Friday 11:00am
LHCCC 6687 6291
Thursday 10:30am

UPCOMING EVENTS

Surviving Adolescence Together

KCC
30 March, 7 & 13 April
10:30am – 1:00pm
Steve 0429 190 210
Monica 0417 026 585

Lennox Head Community Markets

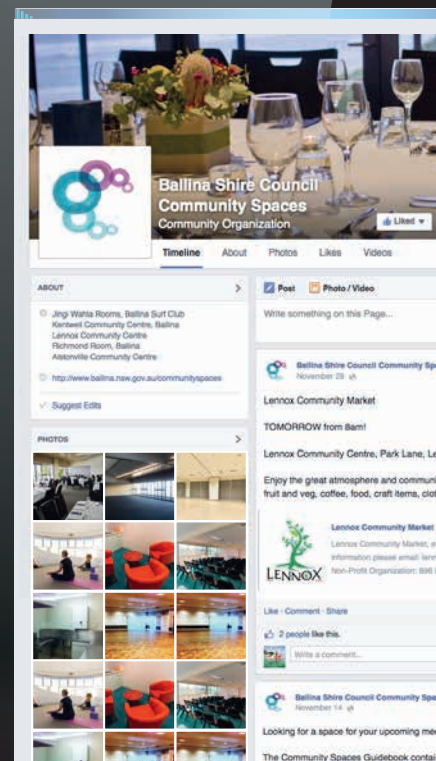
LHCCC
Sunday 12 April
8:00am - 2:00pm
0419 369 609

Far North Coast Kids & Babies Market

LHCCC
Saturday 19 April
0434 493 940

Northern Rivers Japanese Textile Retreat

LHCCC
30 April – 3 May
Cally Bennett 6687 6542
callybennett@bigpond.com



like us on facebook

Ballina Shire Council
Community Spaces is not only
about great venues to hire for
your function or event.

Every day, across all of our
spaces, we host a wide range of
classes, activities and events.

To keep up to date with
what's happening in your local
community, and across the
entire Ballina Shire, join us on
Facebook to receive all the latest
news.

 [facebook.com/
bsccommunityspaces](https://facebook.com/bsccommunityspaces)



To find out what is happening in your local community space follow our
Facebook page, or download a copy of our "What's On" newsletter at
ballina.nsw.gov.au/communityspaces

current exhibitions



Image: Chain Event, Hobie Porter

4 March – 6 May 2015

Art at the Airport – Hobie Porter

Visitors to the Ballina Byron Gateway Airport are set for a sublime art experience with the latest showcase of works by local landscape painter, Hobie Porter, in Northern Rivers Community Gallery's (NRCG) Art at the Airport program.

Hobie Porter's meticulous paintings explore connections between the magnitude of landscape and the minutiae found within it. The two works presented are from the artist's 'Continuum' series and depict local coastal scenes evoking a strong sense of the sublime overlaid with themes of vulnerability and decay.

1 April – 26 April 2015

LOUD in the Gallery – Secondary Schools in Ballina Shire

A dynamic exhibition promoting and celebrating the artistic achievement of secondary school students in the Ballina Shire. Students from Alstonville High, Ballina High, Southern Cross K-12 School, Xavier Catholic College and the Emmanuel Anglican College will experience their artwork being exhibited in a professional gallery while giving the community a valuable insight into the processes, skills and concepts the students explore in art making.



Image: Lauren Hale – Emmanuel Anglican College

annual NAIDOC exhibition artist call-out

Bunjum Culture Matters in partnership with Northern Rivers Community Gallery (NRCG) invite submissions for the Annual NAIDOC Week 2015 Group Exhibition to be held in July 2015. Applications are open to new and established Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists living within the Northern Rivers of NSW. Each artist can submit up to three original works of art in any medium including, but not limited to drawing, painting, ceramic, sculpture and digital media.

For further information contact: culturematters@bunjum.com or 02 6686 5644



Image: Dubay Circle – Weaving detail, 2014



fresh face for gallery foyer

As well as launching a suite of exciting new exhibitions this month NRCG has undergone a redesign of the Gallery foyer to create a dynamic entry point to our Gallery spaces. The redesign features a floating wall that provides additional exhibition space for hanging works and a custom designed information counter. The new look Gallery foyer creates a fresh and spacious feel as a focal point to greet visitors to the Gallery whilst creating room to expand the Gallery Shop to further support our local arts and crafts practitioners.



upcoming exhibitions

29 April – 24 May 2015

Fight // Flight – Kate Hallen

Local emerging artist investigates ideas surrounding military related post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Painting and small sculptural works presented in this exhibition explore the tensions between civilian and militant way of life; a challenge that many PTSD sufferers face.



Image: Death Angels II, Kate Hallen

29 April – 24 May 2015

The Passing – Skye Baker

A series of mixed media drawing works that focus on the geographical and psychological boundaries inherent within the island form. The exhibition creates an archipelago that seeks to offer new experiences of the unknown, sometimes sinister, but often sublime environments that reflect the inner world of the artist.



Image: Burst, Skye Baker

29 April – 24 May 2015

AgX – Grayson Cooke

An art-science project about memory and forgetting, that features time-lapse macro-photographs taken of photographic negatives being chemically destroyed. This project is about how photography works as an external memory.



Image: AgX: Sulphuric Acid, Grayson Cooke

Digital images shared via social media have become one of the primary ways we define ourselves in contemporary society. But once upon a time, this was done on photographic film, essentially strips of cellulose acetate. AgX reflects on the value placed on these “memory objects” by subjecting a collection of photos to a range of corrosive chemicals, producing a visual metaphor for the gradual loss of memory.

6 May – 1 July 2015

Michael Philp

The silently powerful works of Michael Philp will welcome visitors to the Ballina Byron Gateway Airport during the months of May and June. Michael is a local Indigenous painter currently working in Lismore who grew up in the Caldera Indigenous community and landscape. The artist's country stretches from beneath Wollumbin following the Tweed River down from Murwillumbah to Cudgen, Chinderah, Fingal and Duranbah and out to the ocean. The path of the river maps the home of Michael's people. The two works presented in this showcase are a personal history and represent the artists relationship with his people, home and Country.



Image: Spotting for Sea Mullett, Michael Philp

27 May – 21 June 2015

Unseen – Rachael Windress

Using various translucent objects combined with experimental and fibre optic lighting, local photographic artist Rachael Windress presents a showcase of bold, abstract, multi-layered images.



Image: Dynamism, Rachael Windress

27 May – 21 June 2015

Of Place – Group Show

Of Place brings together five artists from the region, exploring sense of place through their diverse artistic methods and approaches of drawing, painting and mixed media.

Artists René Bolten, Jennifer Lowrey, Heather Jessup, Jeremy Austin and Claudie Frock's practices may range from emerging to established but each artist brings a unique interpretation to reveal their stories about the shared theme of place and its effect on their lives and artmaking.



Image: Sunset Bat Friends, Jeremy Austin



council services over easter / autumn school holiday period + anzac day

LOCATION	CLOSING	REOPENING
Customer Service Centre <i>For emergencies concerning water, sewerage, roads, stormwater and health matters please telephone: 6626 6954</i>	4.30pm Thursday 2 April	8.15am Tuesday 7 April 2015
Libraries Ballina, Alstonville and Lennox Head Ph: 6625 5100	8.00pm Thursday 2 April (Ballina) 5.00pm Thursday 2 April (Alstonville) 5.00pm Thursday 2 April (Lennox Head) Closed ANZAC Day	9.30am Tuesday 7 April 2015
Northern Rivers Community Gallery Ph: 6681 6167	4pm Thursday 2 April Closed ANZAC Day	10.00am Wednesday 8 April 2015
Waste Management Centre 167 Southern Cross Drive, Ballina Ph: 6686 1287	Closed to the public on Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday. Closed ANZAC Day	Re-open 8am Tuesday 7 April 2015. Kerbside collection remains unchanged. Please bins at kerbside by 5am on your normal collection day, as start times and the order of collection may vary.
Alstonville Swimming Pool Ph: 6628 0826	Closed Good Friday. Closed ANZAC Day End of swimming season dependent on weather conditions.	Open from 10am to 6pm – Saturday, Sunday and Monday
Ballina Swimming Pool Ph: 6686 3771	Open 9am to 5pm Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday	Open 9am to 5pm Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday
Community Spaces Alstonville Leisure and Entertainment Centre Jingi Wahla Rooms: Ballina Surf Club Kentwell Community Centre Lennox Community Centre Richmond Room	4.30pm Thursday 2 April	8.30am Tuesday 7 April 2015

Don't dispose of me yet

Use this issue of Community Connect to wrap kitchen waste and dispose in the green organics bin.

contacting your councillors

Councillors are here to represent your views.

Councillors may be elected in Wards, however each Councillor represents the entire community and can be contacted on any matter.

You can contact Councillors in person, by phone or email.

A Ward



Susan Meehan
phone 0431 685 666
smeehan@ballina.nsw.gov.au

B Ward



Sharon Cadwallader
phone 0419 973 166
crsharonc@nor.com.au

C Ward



Paul Worth
phone 0428 280 082
pworth@ballina.nsw.gov.au



Robyn Hordern
Deputy Mayor
phone 0410 562 758
robynh@ballina.nsw.gov.au



Jeff Johnson
phone 0438 677 202
jeffjohnson@ballina.nsw.gov.au



Keith Johnson
phone 0407 435 573
kjohnson@ballina.nsw.gov.au

Mayor



David Wright – Mayor
phone 0415 965 403
davidwright@ballina.nsw.gov.au



Ken Johnston
phone 0437 601 715
kenj@ballina.nsw.gov.au



Keith Williams
phone 0418 504 644
keithw@ballina.nsw.gov.au



Ben Smith
phone 0415 482 412
bens@ballina.nsw.gov.au



COUNCIL CONTACT INFORMATION

Ph: 02 6686 4444

Fax: 02 6686 7035

Email: council@ballina.nsw.gov.au

Web: ballina.nsw.gov.au

Street Address:
40 Cherry Street, Ballina

Postal Address:
PO Box 450, Ballina 2478

Office Hours:
8.15am to 4.30pm Mon-Fri
(excluding public holidays)

After hours contact:
02 6626 6954

Council's Community Access Points:
Meeting agendas and documents on exhibition can be viewed at Council's Customer Service Centre; Alstonville, Ballina and Lennox Head Libraries and Council's website ballina.nsw.gov.au